

Please amend claims 37-39 as follows:

Sub C3

37. (Amended) An isolated DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an isolated NGSP polypeptide, which is a polypeptide of a *Neisseria* species with the proviso that said *Neisseria* species is not *N. meningitidis*, and which polypeptide has a molecular weight of about 40 kD to about 55 kD as determined in SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis using glutamic dehydrogenase, carbonic anhydrase and myoglobin-blue as molecular weight markers [the NGSP polypeptide of claim 1, 5, or 6 or fragment thereof].

B5

38. (Twice Amended) An isolated DNA having the sequence of SEQ ID [NOs] NO. [1, 2,] 3 [5, or 8, a fragment thereof or the complement thereof].

2517

39. (Amended) An isolated DNA encoding an NGSP polypeptide which comprises a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes [under high stringency conditions] at 68°C in 0.5M NaHPO₄ (pH 7.2) 1mM EDTA/7% SDS or at 65°C in 6X SSC, 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 1mM EDTA, 0.02% PVP, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% BSA or in 50% formamide/0.25 M NaHPO₄ (pH 7.2)/1 mM NaCl/1 mM EDTA/7% SDS to the sequence of SEQ ID [NOs:] NO. [1, 2] 3 [, 5 or 7,] or the complement thereof, wherein said complement is complementary to at least 25 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO. 3.

Please add new claims 48-53 as follows:

B6

--48. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a fragment of a NGSP polypeptide said fragment comprising at least 7 amino acids and having an antigenic epitope of the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO. 3.

49. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a NGSP polypeptide which specifically binds an antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO. 3.